

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



PCT

(43) International Publication Date
1 September 2005 (01.09.2005)

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/079261 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
G01N 31/00 (2006.01)

(74) Agents: GOTTS, Lawrence, J. et al.; Shaw Pittman LLP,
1650 Tysons Boulevard, McLean, VA 22102-4859 (US).

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2005/004176

(81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(22) International Filing Date:
11 February 2005 (11.02.2005)

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(25) Filing Language: English
(26) Publication Language: English
(30) Priority Data:
60/544,501 13 February 2004 (13.02.2004) US

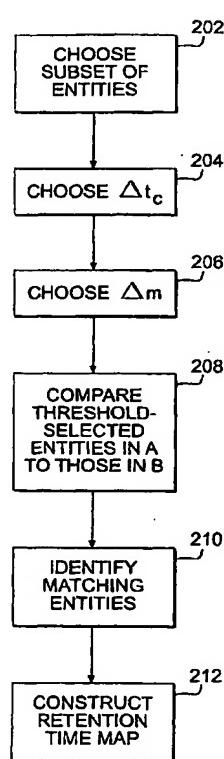
(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): WATERS INVESTMENT LIMITED [US/US]; 109 Lukens Drive, New Castle, DE 19720 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): GORENSTEIN, Marc, V. [US/US]; 313 Brookline Street, Needham, MA 02492 (US). LI, Guo-Zhong [US/US]; 14 Morse Street, Westborough, MA 01581 (US).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR TRACKING AND QUANTITATING CHEMICAL ENTITIES



(57) Abstract: In complex separations, more than one entity may have the same molecular weight, to within the ability of instrument to distinguish. Accurate mass measurements are used in light of the previously unknown regularities in retention time to determine a retention time map (212). The retention time map allows a reference retention time to be assigned to each entity in a separation. The reference retention times, together with accurate mass measurements, can then be used to track and to compare entities (708) between separations.

WO 2005/079261 A3



Published:

- *with international search report*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

6 July 2006